

MONTEREY COUNTY
Collaborative Action Linking Adolescents (CALA) Program – (\$1,000,000 grant)

Monterey County's CALA program is anchored in the evidence-based Brief Strategic Family Therapy (BSFT) model but also incorporates a newly formed Mental Health Court (MHC). The core of the program is the multi-disciplinary case management team comprised of a Senior Psychiatric Social Worker (team lead- providing BSFT, intensive case management, interventions and treatment), Psychiatric Social Worker I (providing BSFT, intensive case management and interventions), a Behavioral Health Aide/Family Peer Counselor (providing family support and linkages to community services), a Probation Officer II (providing community supervision and serves as MHC Officer) and a Probation Department Aide (providing family support and collection of mandatory data). This team offers CALA youth and their families support on a 24/7 basis and works with the county's System of Care to ensure the appropriate coordination of services.

Early mental health screening, provided to approximately 900-1,200 youth, will be conducted by a bi-lingual Social Worker III (providing in-custody treatment to program youth as well) and assisted by the Probation Department Aide. As necessary, minors will be given a full psycho-social assessment by behavioral health staff to determine eligibility into the CALA program. Individuals requiring mental health and/or substance abuse services will either be referred to the county's existing programs or referred to the MHC, which will serve approximately 30 minors and their families during the grant period. A team comprised of Behavioral Health Clinicians, a judicial officer, District Attorney, Public Defender and Probation Officer reviews participant cases and offers support during court proceedings while the presiding Judge provides incentives and/or sanctions tailored to each youth to encourage community integration rather than detention.

In addition to providing BSFT services, CALA provides Thinking for Change- an integrated cognitive behavior change program, medication management, family/peer support and several substance use/abuse treatment and education programs, namely Seven Challenges, Integrated Co-occurring Treatment (ICT) and Helping to Educate Adolescents in Recovery and Treatment (HEART).

Project Director: Greg Glazzard, Monterey County Probation Department
(831) 755-3912; glazzardgg@co.monterey.ca.us